

HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1910.

POLITICAL PASSINGS SHED AIR OF GLOOM OVER WASHINGTON

Partial Change of Power Will Throw Thousand From Government Payroll--Sessions Will Be Personally Interesting

By Ernest G. Walker.

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, December 2.—Congress assembling vivifies a monotonous capital, that has been waiting and watching during weeks and months for the stir of the winter season. It is, however, a lugubrious vivifying. A sense of party calamity is over all the proceedings. The future is not encouraging. For three months a Republican majority must work its way through the necessary tasks of winding up, as far as the national house is concerned, the affairs of a great political estate that has been suddenly dissipated.

The session is the last dying gasp of an epoch that politicians and writers will probably note for many years to come. It originated in one landslide and is terminating in another. The congressional casualties of a landslide campaign are always large, but the recent one includes a generation of senate and house leaders. It is all the more remarkable because two short years ago the future seemed entirely secure.

Therefore it is that the session, now at hand, has a big personal element of interest. The actors are trooping upon the stage for the last scene of the drama and when the curtain rises again men, who have been of minor political importance, will be cast in the foremost roles. All this is much in mind as the session gets into full swing.

Rent Signs Appear.

Nearly 2000 men are engaged in some capacity keeping senate and house at work during a session. The figure can not be given with accuracy, as there are many ramifications of congressional employment. The senators are ninety-two; the representatives are three hundred ninety-one; the rest are secretaries, clerks, messengers and so on through a long category. Nearly all of them come this year, lightly accoutred, and looking upon the session as little else than a three months' sojourn at Washington. This is told eloquently in the excess of rent signs that peer through the windows of Washington residences. Congressional families are staying at home this winter, while their heads go down to Washington.

Consequently the hotels and the boarding houses will reap a larger harvest. The votes that attend high cost of living are compensated for in some measure by the fat patronage which these places of entertainment see ahead.

Half Are Fallen.

More than half this congressional host will not return next year. There will be the biggest outgoing of officials and of employees that Washington has seen since Cleveland handed the reins of government over to McKinley. The transfer of partial authority over to the Democratic party carries also hundreds of places and the incoming of Democratic senators likewise cuts off many good jobs now on the Republican roster.

Passing of the Chiefs.

The country, of course, takes an interest chiefly in the passing of the big men. First in that list, probably, is the Speaker of the house. A long time of congressional activity may be yet ahead of this septuagenarian but it is unlikely that Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, now rounding out his fourth term as presiding officer of the house, will ever again inaugurate the proceedings of the session. He stays on the rolls as a representative at \$7500 but, after this session, he will not have the additional salary of \$4500 and a government automobile. He goes over to the Republican minority and when the Democratic Speaker takes the gavel a year from now will probably be sent back to the appropriations committee where he has performed a service of economy of in-

doubted value to the country.

A tumultuous house caused him many annoyances during its last session. The doings were almost unprecedented and forecasted the advent of a Democratic majority. The Speaker always has a task in the maintenance of party discipline; ordinarily it would be more difficult toward the expiration of a congress that has been repudiated by the people. But Speaker Cannon's duties will hardly be more onerous this winter. He seems to have a firmer grasp upon the scepter than when the house adjourned and will fight his way vigorously through to the early days of March without a shadow of turning.

New Sun Rises.

Whenever the sun begins to descend upon a big career in congress, it means the ascendancy of some other personality in that forum. Minority leaders in the house for sixteen years have not been reckoned of much account. The Democratic party has been too weak in popular support to be formidable in the contests growing out of legislation. But all this is changed now and the man of the hour in the national house is minority leader Champ Clark, of Missouri, who will eventually be Speaker. He already reads his title clear, which will add enormously to his prestige at this session. Two decades ago when the Democrats overturned the Republican majority in the fifty-first congress, Roger Q. Mills, of Texas, occupied the position that Mr. Clark now has. But he went down in the tilting yard where the speakership candidates vied. The Missourian now enters upon the session with house Democrats unitedly behind him. His power for harassing and annoying the Republicans is greatly enhanced. This carries also rich opportunities. For while he is lacking in votes, he will speak with the authority of the people and, if he displays the tact and the ability, can, at times, make the Republicans very uncomfortable.

His course will be studied more than that of any other man in the house this winter, as an indication of what his policies will be in the Speaker's chair. There will be much striving for his favor. Large careers are in prospect for numerous house Democrats. At present Mr. Clark has no lieutenants. But he will have the choosing of them in the next congress and the men, whom he thinks well of, will be called to his side much during the next three months. He has quite a coterie to choose from. The possibilities are John J. Fitzgerald, of New York; Albert Barleson, of Texas; James T. Lloyd, of Missouri; Henry D. Clayton and Oscar Underwood, of Alabama; and Swager Sherley, of Kentucky. All these and, perhaps, others, will figure in the aggressive, determined opposition that the Republicans must encounter as they enact \$1,000,000 of appropriations into law.

In the Background.

Except in a general way, most of the Republican notables of the house, who have not already been mentioned, will likely have but a small part in the proceedings of this session. Serebo Payne, of New York; and John Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, whose names have been eminently associated with the administrations of Speakers Reed, Henderson and Cannon, will probably be in the background. They will pass to the role of minority members without particular opportunities for conspicuous activity. This will hardly be true of Representative James A. Tawney, of Minnesota, another of the leading Cannon lieutenants. As chairman of house appropriations, he will have charge of a great share of the appropriations legislation. In Washington there is general regret that Mr. Tawney failed of reelection. He stood squarely against appropriations that he thought unwarranted, but incurred the hostility of

Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot.

The Great Objector.

Representative James Mann, of Chicago, the great objector, will be a figure of continued interest as the session progresses. He is a Cannon lieutenant and has been an inveterate foe of expenditures that could not run the gamut of severe criticism. If "Uncle Joe" does not win the minority leadership in the next house, there has been much talk of placing the mantle upon Mr. Mann, who has bulldog tenacity. He is very constant in attendance upon the house, a very desirable qualification for a minority leader.

Employee Now Member.

No mention of the interesting personalities of the session would be complete without Representative-elect Asher C. Hinds, of the first Maine district. He is back in Washington at his old task of house parliamentarian and, as such, takes his place at the Speaker's elbow, high up on the marble rostrum. He probably knows more members of the house than any other man and as the greatest parliamentarian in the world enjoys no small distinction in the legislative chamber. Heretofore, as a house employee, he has adhered very strictly to his own duties but since his election as a member he feels free to participate in matters purely political.

In an entirely unofficial capacity, he will have an interest this winter in considerable legislation. The appropriation bill is an instance. He has already taken a hand in the preliminary conferences about that measure, which will have important bearing on the division of congressional districts in his home State of Maine and also upon the efforts of the Democratic Maine legislature to gerrymander his district so that he can not be reelected. When he gets upon the floor in the next congress, the Republicans count upon him to be a tower of strength to the minority cause. Parliamentary skill is a great advantage in the house. The Democrats have very few good parliamentarians. They have no man equipped to cope with Mr. Hinds in parliamentary rough and tumble speaking.

In the Senate.

The house should easily be the livelier forum of the winter. The senate, however, will focus attention because of the passing there of a galaxy of men who, presumably, are serving out their last term in that body. Hale, Aldrich, Beveridge, Carter, Keen, Dewey and Dick are headed for private life and all, except Aldrich, will be succeeded by Democrats.

Of this number Senator Hale, of Maine, will be most prominent in the proceedings of the session. He is chairman of the appropriation committee and of the Republican caucus. No small share of the senate leadership falls upon his shoulders, particularly at a short session where most of the legislation has to do with appropriation bills. He serves also on naval affairs and census, committees that will have important bills to consider. If it were a tariff session, when measures with which the finance committee has to do, Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, its chairman, would be the most conspicuous senator. But the finance committee will probably have next to nothing to do for the remainder of the congress and Senator Aldrich, except in matters of party council, will be called to take his last legislative term in Washington very easily.

A Disliked Youngster.

There will be much interest in Senator Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana, still a young man, who first came to the senate nearly twelve years ago on an election that was won chiefly for his ability as a boy orator. It will be little surprise if he stays much in Washington between now and March 4. The older senators dislike him cordially. They rejoice almost openly in his defeat and along with very high administration officials will be disposed now to make life uncomfortable for him in this vicinity. It was recently reported that President Taft would probably defer making important federal appointments in Indiana until after March 4, that he might not have to obtain Senator Beveridge's endorsement and that he might name Hoosiers to office who are acceptable to certain or Senator Beveridge's factional opponents.

Senator Beveridge has never been a leader among his colleagues, but his readiness at public speaking has made him a factor in the senate that could not be entirely ignored. He probably will not be identified with any legisla-

tion of note this session, unless it be some bill for the chartering of railroads and the development of the Territory of Alaska.

Personal Rivalry.

No great senate debates are in prospect this session. Outwardly the work there may be very uninteresting except for an occasional day. But there will be great rivalry for personal advancement. In that regard the senate promises something worth while. Hale and Aldrich have been towering figures in legislation for a quarter of a century. Their retirement leaves New England weaker in legislative champions than almost any other section of the country. They have bluffed and fought for what New England Republicans wanted and have kept the rest of the senate in awe of them because of their success.

West Versus Middle.

Their chairmanships will be easily disposed of by the rule of seniority of committee service but the fight for the positions of influence which these senators vacate will be long and severe. The outcome can hardly be forecasted but the struggle will really begin at the present session. Western senators are crowding hard for larger recognition and will obtain it in some measure. But Democratic influences are beginning to predominate in the senate from the middle west and the contest for leadership is really being waged between Republicans from beyond the Mississippi and Republicans this side of the Alleghenies.

Senators Crane of Massachusetts, Gallinger of New Hampshire, Root of New York, Penrose of Pennsylvania, Burton of Ohio, and Lodge of Massachusetts, if he is reelected, will be the big men of the eastern group. Warren of Wyoming, Borah of Idaho, Smoot of Utah, and Nelson of Minnesota, will be the big regulars of the West striving for advantage in leadership. But this western group, well entrenched in good committee places, may be overshadowed by Cummins, of Iowa; La Follette, of Wisconsin; and Bristow, of Kansas; militant insurgents, who in the next congress are to hold the balance of power between the Regular Republicans and the Democrats and who hope the senate leadership will be in their hands.

Insurgent Factors.

The maneuvering of this insurgent group will be of national interest from the first to the last day of the session. Foremost probably will be Senator Albert B. Cummins, of Iowa, already a declared candidate for the presidency in 1912. He is just entering upon his fourth session of congress and, in the matter of length of service, is not qualified for leadership as the usual senatorial standards go. But he has been able to maintain himself successfully in the senate and will undoubtedly continue this winter in a very aggressive role. He will hardly have a rival in Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, although the latter has become very much of a personality in the senate. The Wisconsin man, however, ventures into the fray only occasionally and apparently does not have as large a following as the Iowan.

Beating a Retreat.

The work of the session, although it may be in large part of a routine character, may have no small influence upon the future of both parties. The Republicans are in the role of conducting an orderly retreat while harassed by the enemies' fire. The pacifists, of whom Senator Crane, of Massachusetts, is the most expert, will try to keep the factions from any more open quarrels. Success in that regard will be worth something in helping the efforts to get the party on a fighting basis for the presidential campaign.

During the last year or two the senate Democrats have been tolerably passive. They have allowed the Regular and Insurgent Republicans to have it out and in the meantime have kept quietly in their own seats. A change in this is now expected. The Democrats are now near a majority of the senate. They have strong men in their ranks and probably from this time will be a more powerful factor in debating and in voting. The senate minority is no longer made up entirely of Southern senators, as it was up to a year or two ago. The northern contingent of senate Democrats will soon be quite numerous and will include men of no mean ability.

The President generally figures prominently in the congressional proceedings of a session. He has measures to urge and holds conferences galore with the congressional leaders of his own party. Apparently there will be but little of such activity on his part during the remainder of the sixty-first congress. There will be almost no White House

campaigns for legislation. Those he does undertake will be of such minor importance as to attract the attention of the country only momentarily. But that regard will probably be of much importance.

NOTHING BETTER FOR

Christmas

We Offer as Suggestions for Gifts

MAILE COLOGNE.

GILLETTE RAZORS.

THERMOS BOTTLES.

SILVER SHAVING SETS.

MILITARY HAIR BRUSHES.

FRENCH PERFUMES.

HAAS CELEBRATED CANDY.

There Is a Great Demand for These Articles.

BOOK ORDERS NOW!

Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd.

Fort and Hotel Streets

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Can be made

More Cheerful

If there's

PAU-KA-HANA

In the House.

At Your Grocers

Fred L. Waldron

AGENT

Honolulu Soap Works

CEDAR SHIRT WAIST BOXES BOX LOUNGES

Honolulu Wire Bed Co., Ltd., KING AND ALAKEA STREETS.

A FREE LOT FOR YOUR XMAS

To the person buying the two remaining lots in Waialae Heights, I will give a lot 50 by 150 feet in fee simple absolutely free.

L. KIRKPATRICK

122 King St., next to Bulletin Office